



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nicholas K. Hayward, et al.

Examiner: Christine J. Saoud

Serial No: 09/349,954

Art Unit: 1647

Filed: July 8, 1999

Docket: 10441Z

For: A VASCULAR ENDOTHELIAL
GROWTH FACTOR (VEGF) MOLECULE
AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING SAME

Dated: December 9, 2004

Confirmation No.: 7397

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

STATUS LETTER

Sir:

In the Office Communication dated June 9, 2004, the Examiner indicated that due to a potential interference, *ex parte* prosecution is suspended for a period of six months.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 9, 2004.

Dated: December 9, 2004


Frank S. DiGiglio

As the period of suspension expires on December 9, 2004, Applicants request that the Examiner provides an indication as to the current status of the above-identified application.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "F. S. DiGiglio", written in a cursive style.

Frank S. DiGiglio
Registration No. 31,346

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